

A NEW MOUNTAIN PROTEA.

By E. P. PHILLIPS, D.Sc.

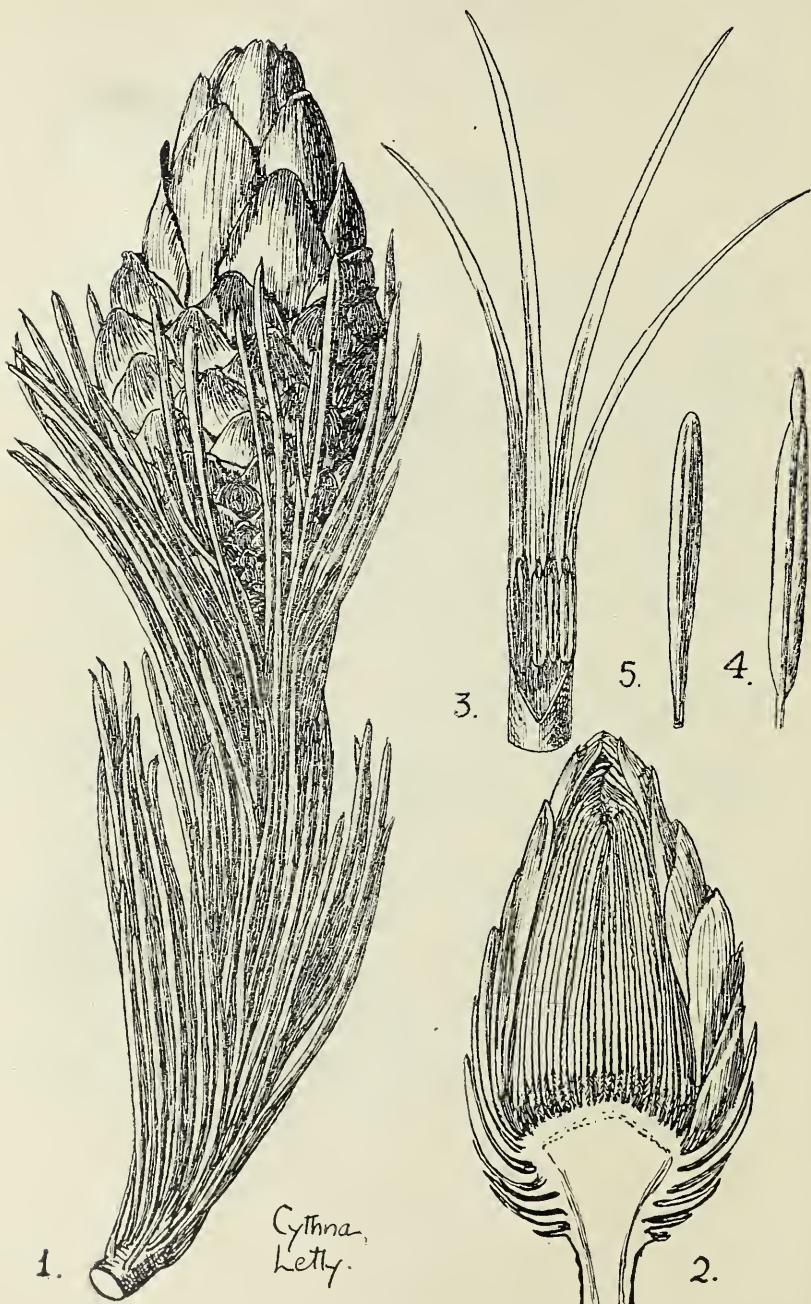
Principal Botanist, Division of Plant Industry.

The species of *Protea* described below differs from any described species known to the author. As *Protea cynaroides* differs from all other caulescent species in the genus in having petioled leaves, so the species described below is unique in the genus in having the perianth-segments produced into long awns. The discovery of such a striking plant is evidence that our mountain flora is not yet thoroughly worked and it is a pleasure to record that the discovery was made by two members of the Mountain Club of South Africa, Messrs. T. P. Stokoe and R. Primos, both of whom have previously also collected interesting plants from the mountains of the Cape Province.

Protea aristata, Phillips (Proteaceae—Proteae); *a P. revoluta R. Br. calycis laminis aristatis differt.*

Rami glabri. Folia 5–7 cm. longa, 0·2 cm. lata, linearia, apice sub-acuta, mucronata, glabra. Capitulum sessile, 7·5 cm. longum, circiter 4 cm. latum. Involuci-bractae 15–17-criatae; exteriores ovatae, obtusae, glabrae; interiores linearis-spathulatae, supra 1·2 cm. latae, sparse pubescentes, calyci longiores. Calycis tubus 2·2 cm. longus, basi vix dilatus, 7-nervosus, ciliatus, glaber; laminae 9 mm. longae, apice longe aristatae; aristae 1·2–1·8 cm. longae, supra apice ciliatae. Stamina 3, fertilia, subsessilia, 8·5 mm. longa, linearia, apice glandibus 1 mm. longis linearis obtusis instructa; stamen sterile 1. Ovarium 1·5 mm. longum, pilis longis vestitum; stylus 1·4 cm. longus, linearis; stigma 6 mm. longum, lineare, plano-convexum, 1-costatum.

CAPE PROVINCE: Prince Albert district: Seven Weeks Poort on open slopes facing north; branches trailing on ground; outer bracts dark red; inner bracts pink; perianth pink; 5,200 ft; December, 1928; National Herbarium 23015 (type), Stokoe 1882, Primos 85.



Protea aristata Phillips. FIG. 1. Portion of plant (life size). 2. median longitudinal section of head. 3. Upper portion of perianth, showing the long awns, the 3 fertile stamens and the staminode. 4. An anther. 5. Stigma.